Attorney Docket No.15739/212

Client Docket No. AP4644

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE RECEIVED

Re App

Mu-Lin Shen

GENTRAL FAX CENTER

Serial No.

10/729,617

Art Unit 3676

APR 1 3 2004

Filed

For

December 5, 2003

Confirmation No. 2909

COMBINATION OF AN OUTSIDE SPINDLE AND A CORE RETAINER FOR A LOCK

APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY AND/OR AGENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT VIA FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION, ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON APRIL [3], 20 2004 TO FAX NO.: 703-872-9306 (37 CFR 1.8a)

Dear Sir:

The undersigned, Alan D. Kamrath, Reg. No. 28,227, principal attorney appointed to prosecute this application, hereby appoints as his associate attorney and/or agent to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

NIKOLAI & MERSEREAU, P.A., (Customer Number 23595), a professional association, consisting of the following attorneys/agents and the following attorneys/agents individually: Thomas J. Nikolai, Registration No. 19,283; Charles G. Mersereau, Registration No. 26,205; Steven E. Kahm, Registration No. 30,860; and James P. Rieke, Registration No. 55,573 of 820 International Centre, 900 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3325; Telephone No. (612) 339-7461, our attorneys/agents with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please direct all telephone calls and correspondence to (Customer Number 23595): Alan D. Kamrath, NIKOLAI & MERSEREAU, P.A., 820 International Centre, 900 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3325; Telephone No. (612) 339-7461.

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 28,227